

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 00220 110916Z  
ACTION DLOS-09

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 ACDA-12 AGRE-00 AID-05 CEA-01  
CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00  
EB-08 EPA-01 SOE-02 DOE-11 FMC-01 TRSE-00 H-01  
INR-07 INT-05 IO-13 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05  
NSF-01 OES-07 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-05 PRS-01 SP-02  
SS-15 USIA-06 /135 W  
-----115288 111342Z /50

R 110834Z JAN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8621  
INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 0220

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PLOS, KS, US  
SUBJECT: ROK TERRITORIAL SEA LEGISLATION

REF: SEOUL 0093 (DTG 060637Z JAN 78)

1. KOREAN PRESS JANUARY 10-11 REPORTS ON RECENT EXCHANGES  
US AND JAPANESE EMBASSIES HAVE HAD WITH ROKG ON KOREA AND  
CHEJU STRAITS. ARTICLES SUM UP FAIRLY ACCURATELY THE RESPEC-  
TIVE POSITIONS TAKEN, STRESSING ROKG HAS INSISTED THE CHEJU  
STRAIT CAN PROPERLY BE INCLUDED IN TERRITORIAL WATERS,  
ALTHOUGH NOTING NO DECISION YET MADE. SOME ACCOUNTS ALSO  
REFER TO PROBLEMS INVOLVED WITH ROK-JAPAN FISHERY AGREEMENT,  
AND INDICATE SOME ADJUSTMENT IN ORDER ON THIS ACCOUNT.

2. IN PRIVATE DISCUSSIONS WE HAVE HAD WITH JAPANESE EMBASSY  
IN SEOUL, LATTER HAVE ADVISED US THEY ARE CONCERNED ROK WILL  
PRESENT THEM WITH FAIT ACCOMPLI, DESPITE EARLIER PROMISES  
OF CONSULTATION, AND THAT JAPANESE FISHING RIGHTS IN  
PARTICULAR, MAY BE ADVERSELY AFFECTED. AS REGARDS ISSUE  
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OF TERRITORIAL VS. INTERNAL WATERS IN CHEJU AREA, MOFA  
ADVISES US (AND JAPANESE) THAT THEY ARE VERY MUCH IN THE  
MINORITY IN SEEKING TERRITORIAL SEA STATUS WHILE MOST  
OTHER AGENCIES ARE PRESSING FOR INTERNAL WATERS DESIGNATION.  
MOFA REITERATES TO US THAT INNOCENT PASSAGE WOULD BE  
GUARANTEED IN ANY CASE, AND THAT OPTION OF WAIVING ADVANCE  
NOTIFICATION FOR INNOCENT PASSAGE THROUGH THE STRAIT STILL

UNDER CONSIDERATION.

3. LEAK TO PRESS, FOR WHICH MOFA PROFESSES SOME EMBARRASSMENT, SEEMS BOUND TO REDUCE THE ALREADY LIMITED PROSPECTS FOR THE ROKG'S YIELDING ON THE PRINCIPLE INVOLVED (AND MAY HAVE BEEN UNDERTAKEN FOR THAT REASON). HOWEVER, THE NICER DISTINCTIONS INVOLVED ARE FAIRLY SURE TO ESCAPE THE UNDERSTANDING OF THE PRESS OR GENERAL PUBLIC, LEAVING SOME ROOM OPEN FOR AD HOC COMPROMISE.  
SNEIDER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TERRITORIAL SEA LIMIT, LEGISLATIVE BILLS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 11 jan 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Number:** 1978SEOUL00220  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Reference:** 78 SEOUL 93  
**Retention:** 0  
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**TAGS:** PLOS, KS, US  
**To:** STATE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014